

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND COMPUTER COMMITTEE MEETING

March 7, 2022

County Board Room

Meeting called to order by Chairman Tim Cottingham.

Present: Jerry Niles, Roy Granger, Steve Thomas, Jim Parrett, Alan Peterson, Mike Hunkins, Katie Steinke and Lori Chipman.

Motion Granger, second Parrett, to approve the minutes of the February 7 and 23 meetings. Motion carried.

Josh from LaValle Telephone Coop was present to request \$460,000 of ARPA funds to match a broadband grant for southern Juneau County. The project will lay 91 miles of fiber and cover approximately 290 households. It will be funded 80% from a PSC grant, 10% from LaValle Telephone Coop and 10% from the County. The application is due March 17. The Committee wanted to think it over and will address it later in the meeting

Travis Schultz, Public Works Director, was present to request a hot spot for the bridge program. The DOT wants data entered in the field. Motion Granger, second Thomas to approve. Motion carried.

Terri Treptow, County Clerk, was present to request \$12,113.68 to cover the shortage in the library levy amount for 2022, due to a clerical error. Lori stated that she talked to the State DOR and the County cannot use 2022 contingency funds for this because the library levy is only levied over those municipalities that do not have a library, and contingency funds are levied over the entire County. The DOR recommends that we either recalculate the levy and issue new tax bills or use 2021 carryover funds to cover the shortfall. Motion Parrett, second Thomas, to apply \$12,114 from 2021 General Fund to the library levy in 2022. Motion carried.

Mike Hunkins, IT Director, is requesting a resolution to spend ARPA funds for multifactor authentication. Our insurance company is requiring us to have this for data security. Mike received 3 quotes for the project: the cost for the equipment for each is \$21,200 and the annual maintenance varies by company: Fortinet is \$18,000 per year, Microsoft is \$8,900 per year and Heartland is \$1,800 per year. Motion Granger, second Thomas, to accept the quote from Heartland and take it to the County Board for payment from ARPA Funds not to exceed \$21,200 for the equipment. Motion carried.

Lori handed out the cash on hand report for Denise.

The Committee discussed the ARPA funding request from LaValle Telephone Coop. Motion Granger, second Parrett, to take a resolution to the March County Board meeting to fund the request from ARPA funds for \$460,000. Motion carried.

Dawn Buchholz, DHS Director, was present to request 3 smartphones for the Mental Health Therapists. They are out in the community working with the schools and are in need of phones. They can be paid for from the Mental Health Supplemental Block Grant for the next year. Motion Thomas, second Parrett, to approve. Motion carried.

Amanda Dederich, Health Officer, was present to discuss underspending in her tax levy budget due to COVID funding and her concern that her budget will be cut in the future. The Committee stated that they are aware of the reasons for underspending and will look at the future budget requests in that light.

Mike updated the Committee on network security, stating that no threats got through into the system.